

## Message Text

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UNCLAS OSLO 2806

FOR EUR/NE ANNE PINKNEY

FOR SECRETARY'S MORNING MEETING JULY 8

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ORED (HUMPHREY/CULVER, MONDALE, QUIE)

SUBJECT: CODEL HUMPHREY/CULVER, MONDALE, QUIE IS RINGING SUCCESS  
AT NORWEGIAN CELEBRATION OF US EMIGRATION

1. THE THREE DAY VISIT OF SENATORS HUMPHREY, MONDALE  
AND CULVER AND REPRESENTATIVE QUIE AND THEIR WIVES,  
TO ATTEND CEREMONIES MARKING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE NORWEGIAN EMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES, DID MORE  
THAN EXTENSIVE MISSION PROGRAMMING EVER COULD TO  
REASSURE THE NORWEGIAN PEOPLE OF CONTINUED US INTEREST  
IN NORWAY.

2. THE CODEL VISIT BEGAN JULY 2 IN OSLO  
WHERE ALL FOUR MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS HAD AN OPPOR-  
TUNITY TO MEET INFORMALLY WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FRY-  
DENLUND AND OTHER LEADING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. ON  
THE EVENING OF JULY 3 THE GROUP FLEW TO STAVANGER WITH  
PRIME MINISTER BRATTELI, THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND  
PARLIAMENTARY LEADERS TO TAKE PART IN THE CEREMONIES  
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JULY 4 MARKING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST

EMIGRANT SHIP'S DEPARTURE FROM THAT WEST COAST CITY.

3. THE CEREMONIES, PRESIDED OVER BY KING OLAV V, GAVE BOTH NORWEGIAN LEADERS AND THE CODEL EXTENSIVE OPPORTUNITY TO EMPHASIZE THE CLOSE HISTORICAL, CULTURAL AND POLITICAL TIES BETWEEN NORWAY AND THE US. THE CODEL ALSO WAS RECEIVED BY THE KING, WAS GUEST OF HONOR AT AN INFORMAL DINNER HOSTED BY THE NORWEGIAN STORTING AND ENJOYED A FJORD CRUISE IN STAVANGER AREA DURING WHICH SENATOR HUMPHREY HAD INFORMAL MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER.

4. THESE MEETINGS WITH TOP LEADERS--ALTHOUGH INFORMAL--WERE EXTREMELY VALUABLE IN ENABLING CONGRESSIONAL VISITORS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH NORWEGIANS. BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT IMPACT IN CODEL VISIT WAS CLEARLY ON THE NORWEGIAN PUBLIC. THE STAVANGER CEREMONIES, INCLUDING CODEL SPEECHES, WERE BROADCAST LIVE BY INTERNATIONAL RADIO AND TV AND GIVEN EXTENSIVE TREATMENT IN PRESS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. AS ONE NORWEGIAN OFFICIAL COMMENTED: "IT WAS A VERY PUBLIC CEREMONY, WITH THE KING AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WALKING IN THE STREETS WITH THE PEOPLE."

5. SENATOR HUMPHREY LONG RECOGNIZED HERE AS A LEADING NORWEGIAN AMERICAN, DOMINATED THE FRONT PAGES IN SEVERAL PAPERS IN BOTH PHOTOS AND COMMENTS STRESSING US-NORWEGIAN TIES. THERE IS NO QUESTION PEOPLE IDENTIFIED WITH HIM PERSONALLY, AND AS ONE STAVANGER EDITOR SAID: "WE WERE IMPRESSED BY HIS VERY SIMPLE, OPEN WAY OF EXPLAINING US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS, AND THERE IS NO QUESTION AFTER THIS VISIT THE AVERAGE MAN IN NORWAY HAS A MUCH BETTER FEELING ABOUT AMERICA."

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